

Quarkonia propagation in a hot-dense medium

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arXiv:0712.4394 [nucl-th], to appear on NPA.

Summary

- Quarkonium as a probe for the onset of deconfinement;
- Information provided by lattice-QCD calculations and experimental data;
- The object of our investigation:
in-medium $Q\bar{Q}$ propagator in the complex-time plane;
- Basic questions we want to answer;
- An explicit example: $Q\bar{Q}$ in a hot QED plasma;
- Some ideas for future work.

Quarkonium as a probe for the onset of deconfinement

Original idea by Matsui and Satz ^a

⇒ **Statement**: the J/Ψ *anomalous suppression* in high energy AA collisions represents an **unambiguous signature of deconfinement**.

⇒ **Underlying assumptions**:

- The J/Ψ are produced in the very early stage of the collision

$$\tau_{\text{form}} \approx 0.3 \text{ fm}/c;$$

- The medium resulting from the HIC thermalizes in a time

$$\tau_{\text{therm}} \approx 0.5 \div 1 \text{ fm}/c;$$

- Crossing a deconfined medium the $c\bar{c}$ bound states tend to melt (Debye screening of the Coulomb interaction):

$$V(r) \sim -\frac{\alpha}{r} \rightarrow -\frac{\alpha}{r} e^{-m_D r}$$

- The heavy quarks hadronize by combining with light quarks only.

^aT. Matsui and H. Satz, PLB 178 (1986).

Is it possible to make this picture more quantitative through a first-principle (i.e. starting from \mathcal{L}_{QCD}) calculation?

A possible answer: take advantage of the results provided by the lattice-QCD simulations.

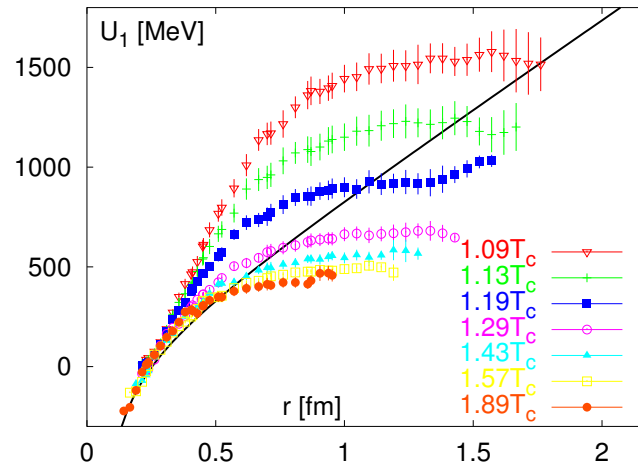
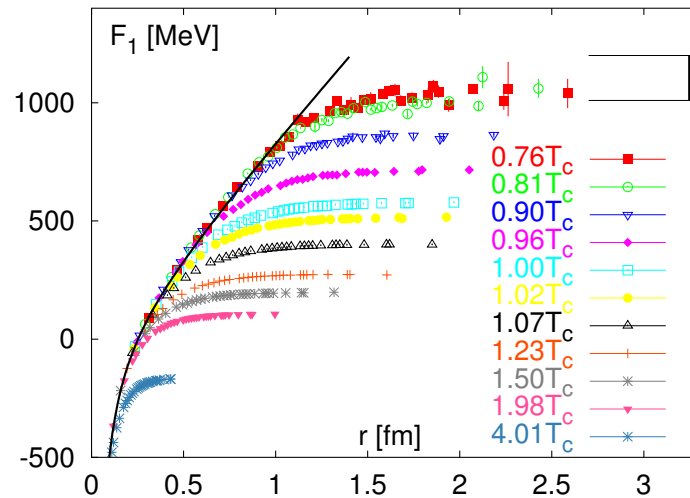
Quarkonium in hot-QCD: what can lattice simulations tell us?

- **Heavy-quark free-energy** calculations:
evaluate ΔF occurring once a $Q\bar{Q}$ pair is placed in a thermal bath of gluons and light quarks;
- **Meson Spectral Function** reconstruction:
look for resonance-peaks^a in the spectral densities extracted from in-medium quarkonium propagators.

^aS. Datta, F. Karsch, P. Petreczky and I. Wetzorke,
Phys. Rev. D 69, 094507 (2004)

$Q\bar{Q}$ free-energy ^a

$$e^{-\beta \Delta F_{Q\bar{Q}}(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{y}, T)} \sim \langle \chi(\beta, \mathbf{y}) \psi(\beta, \mathbf{x}) \psi^\dagger(0, \mathbf{x}) \chi^\dagger(0, \mathbf{y}) \rangle$$



Can one exploit this information to build an effective $Q\bar{Q}$ potential?

state	J/ψ	χ_c	ψ'
$T_d/T_c (V_{\text{eff}} \equiv F_1)$	1.1	0.74	0.1-0.2
$T_d/T_c (V_{\text{eff}} \equiv U_1)$	1.78-1.92	1.14-1.15	1.11-1.12

^aO. Kaczmarek and F. Zantow, PoS LAT2005:192 (2006).

Meson Spectral Functions

⇒ One usually *measures* the *imaginary-time propagator*

$$G_M(\tau) \equiv \langle J_M(\tau) J_M^\dagger(0) \rangle$$

of a meson produced by the current

$$J_M(\tau) \equiv \bar{q}(\tau) \Gamma_M q(\tau)$$

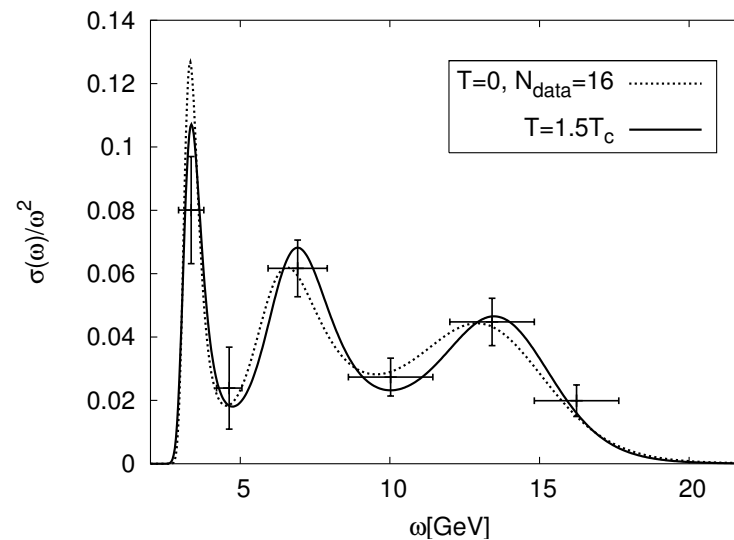
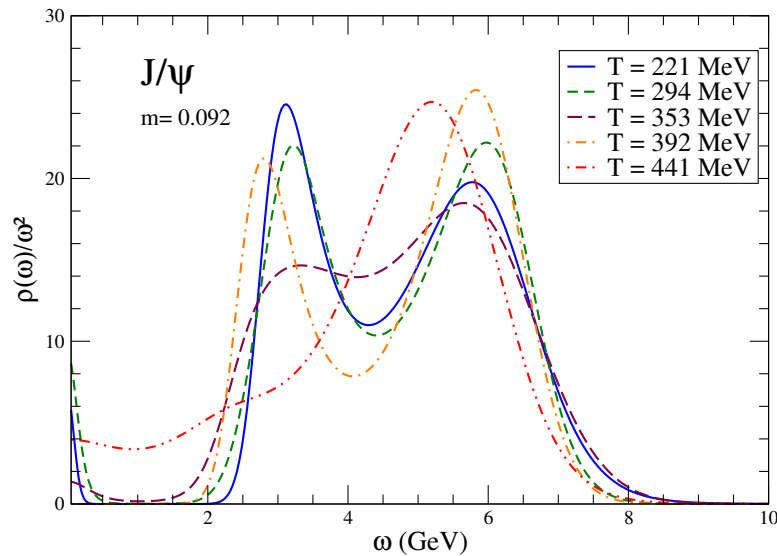
⇒ From $G_M(\tau)$ the MSF has to be *reconstructed*:

$$G_M(\tau) = \int_0^\infty d\omega \underbrace{\sigma_M(\omega)}_{MSF} \frac{\cosh(\omega(\tau - \beta/2))}{\sinh(\beta\omega/2)}$$

NB: Typically $G_M(\tau)$ is known for a quite *limited set of points* ($\lesssim 50$)

→ *problems in inverting the above transform.*

⇒ What is found through a MEM procedure^{a,b}?



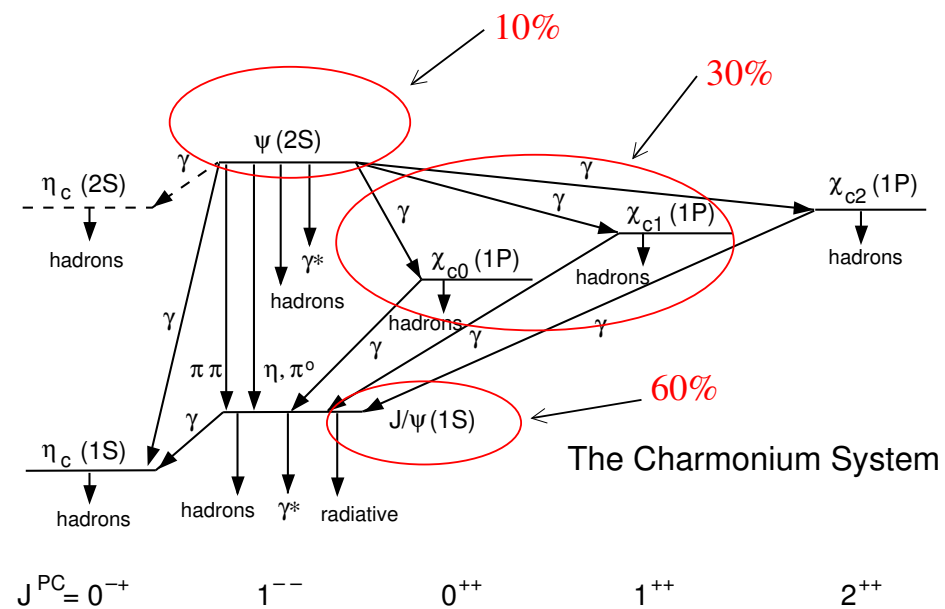
The vector (left) and pseudoscalar (right) MSFs display well-defined peaks up to temperature $T \sim 2T_c$.

^aG. Aarts *et al.*, arXiv:0705.2198 [hep-lat]

^bA. Jakovac *et al.*, Phys.Rev. D75 (2007) 014506.

Experimental data

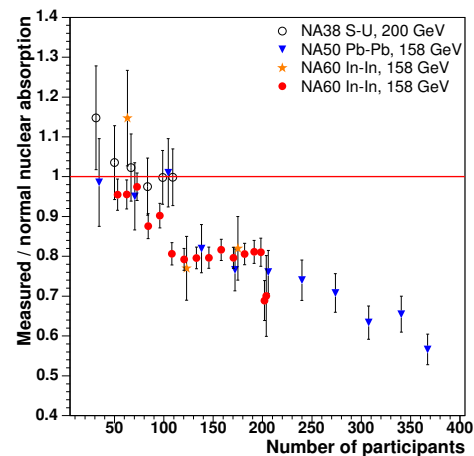
Charmonia production ... in hadronic collisions



... in AA collisions: sequential suppression scenario

As the centrality of the collision increases one has **first** the suppression of the *feed-down* contribution (Ψ' and χ_c). **Then** also the melting of the direct J/Ψ sets in.

\Rightarrow ... at SPS (Na50 and Na60) ^a

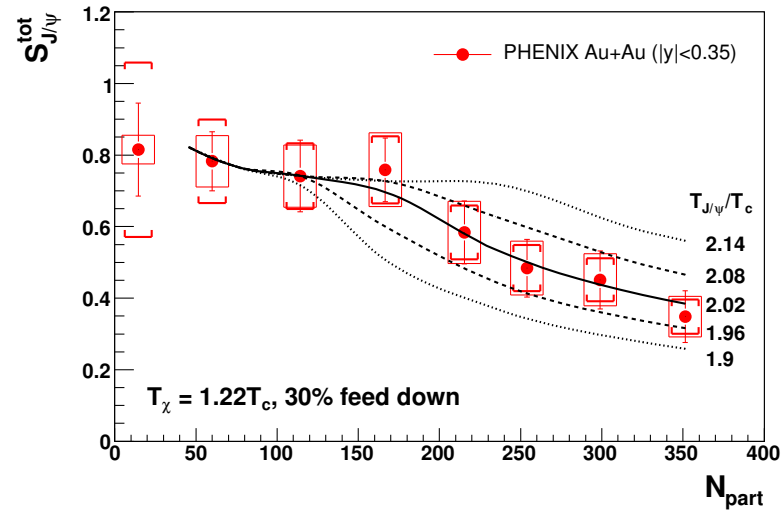
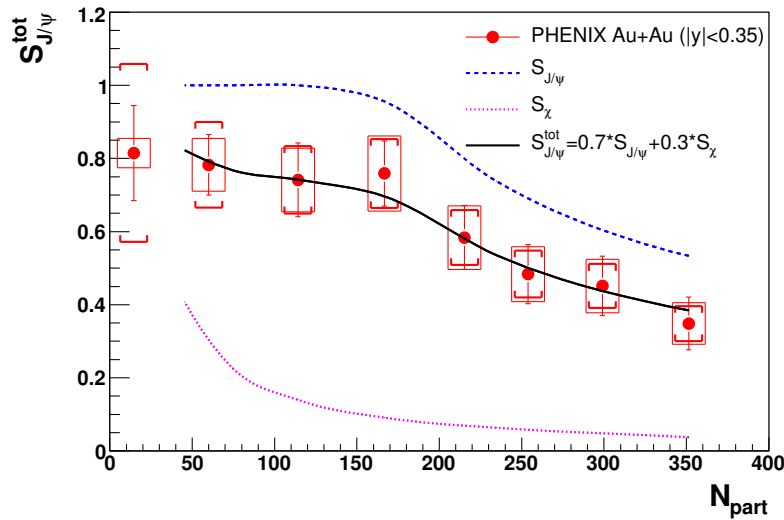


The direct contribution seems to survive!

^aR. Arnaldi, NPA774:711-714,2006.

⇒... at RHIC (PHENIX)

From sequential suppression + hydro evolution one gets:



“It is noticeable that the RHIC data analyzed with the state-of-the-art hydrodynamics leads to a rather stable value for the melting temperature of the J/Ψ to be around $T/T_c \simeq 2$.”^a

^aT. Gunji, H. Hamagaki, T. Hatsuda and T. Hirano, Phys. Rev. C **76**, 051901 (2007).

Some open problems: a brief summary

- **Potential models:** which effective potential from the $Q\bar{Q}$ free-energy data?
- **MSF:** in principle would contain the full information on the in-medium quarkonium properties, BUT large uncertainties from inverting the transform.
- **Is it possible to establish a link** between screened potential models and spectral studies^a?

^aSee e.g. the works by A. Mocsy and P. Petreczky and the talk by W. Alberico in this workshop.

The basic object of our study

$$G^>(t, \boldsymbol{r}_1; t, \boldsymbol{r}_2 | 0, \boldsymbol{r}'_1; 0, \boldsymbol{r}'_2) \equiv \langle \underbrace{\chi(t, \boldsymbol{r}_2) \psi(t, \boldsymbol{r}_1)}_{J_M(t)} \underbrace{\psi^\dagger(0, \boldsymbol{r}'_1) \chi^\dagger(0, \boldsymbol{r}'_2)}_{J_M^\dagger(0)} \rangle$$

- Spectral decomposition:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_M^>(t) &= Z^{-1} \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n} \langle n | J_M(t) J_M^\dagger(0) | n \rangle \\
 &= Z^{-1} \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n} \sum_m e^{i(E_n - E_m)t} |\langle m | J_M^\dagger(0) | n \rangle|^2,
 \end{aligned}$$

- $G^>(t)$ is an **analytic function** in the strip $-\beta < \text{Im}t < 0 \implies$
unified description of real and imaginary-time propagation;
- $Q\bar{Q}$ pair: *external probe placed in a hot/dense medium of light particles* $\implies \{|n\rangle\}$ do not contain heavy quarks.
- One gets the *excitations* (poles of the retarded propagator) *which propagate in the medium*

$$\rho_M(\omega) \equiv G^>(\omega) \implies G_M^R(\omega) = - \int \frac{dq^0}{2\pi} \frac{\rho_M(q^0)}{\omega - q^0 + i\eta}.$$

A recent approach^a

⇒ Evaluate perturbatively

$$G_{M=\infty}^>(t) = G^{(0)>}(t) + G^{(2)>}(t) + \dots$$

⇒ **Ansatz**: $G_{M=\infty}^>(t)$ is solution of

$$(i\partial_t - V_{eff})G_{M=\infty}^>(t) = 0$$

⇒ Identify the **LO** perturbative contribution to the **effective potential**:

$$V_{eff} = V_{eff}^{(2)} + \dots$$

⇒ Get $G^>(t)$ from the solution of

$$(i\partial_t - T - V_{eff}^{(2)})G^>(t) = 0$$

^aM. Laine *et al.*

The basic questions we want to answer:

- Does $G^>(t)$ *obey a closed Schrödinger equation* at finite T? i.e. is it possible to define an effective potential?
- What's the *link* of the effective potential *with the $Q\bar{Q}$ free-energy*?
- Is it possible to include the *effect of collisions* in a consistent way?

Experimental relevance

Beside the issue of the J/Ψ suppression the problem of “*which*” *in-medium effective interaction* between the color charges is of extreme importance to provide a picture of the matter produced at RHIC. See for instance the proposals to explain

- sQGP ($\lambda_{mfp} \ll L$) arising from the huge set of colored loosely bound states above T_c (Shuryak);
- heavy-quark thermalization through s-wave resonant scattering (Rapp).

QED toy-model

A $Q\bar{Q}$ pair in a plasma of
photons, electrons and positrons

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QED}}^{M=\infty} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{em}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{light}} + \underbrace{\psi^\dagger i(\partial_0 - igA_0)\psi}_{\text{heavy } Q} + \underbrace{\chi^\dagger i(\partial_0 + igA_0)\chi}_{\text{heavy } \bar{Q}}$$

The strategy

- Consider the $Q\bar{Q}$ propagation in a given background configuration of the gauge-field A_μ

$$G_A(t, \mathbf{r}_1; t, \mathbf{r}_2 | 0, \mathbf{r}'_1; 0, \mathbf{r}'_2) = \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \times \\ \times \exp \left(ig \int_0^t dt' A_0(\mathbf{r}_1, t') \right) \exp \left(-ig \int_0^t dt' A_0(\mathbf{r}_2, t') \right)$$

- Average over the gauge-field configuration with an action accounting for thermal effects

$$G^>(t, \mathbf{r}_1; t, \mathbf{r}_2 | 0, \mathbf{r}'_1; 0, \mathbf{r}'_2) = Z^{-1} \int [\mathcal{D}A] G_A(t, \mathbf{r}_1; t, \mathbf{r}_2 | 0, \mathbf{r}'_1; 0, \mathbf{r}'_2) e^{iS[A]}$$

Which is the action to employ to weight the field configurations?

The HTL effective action I

⇒ Relevant momentum scales in a ultra-relativistic plasma:

- **Hard** (*plasma particles*):

$$E \sim T^4 \quad N \sim T^3 \quad \Rightarrow \quad K \sim T;$$

- **Soft** (*collective modes*): $K \sim gT$.

⇒ **Mean Free Path** of a plasma particle:

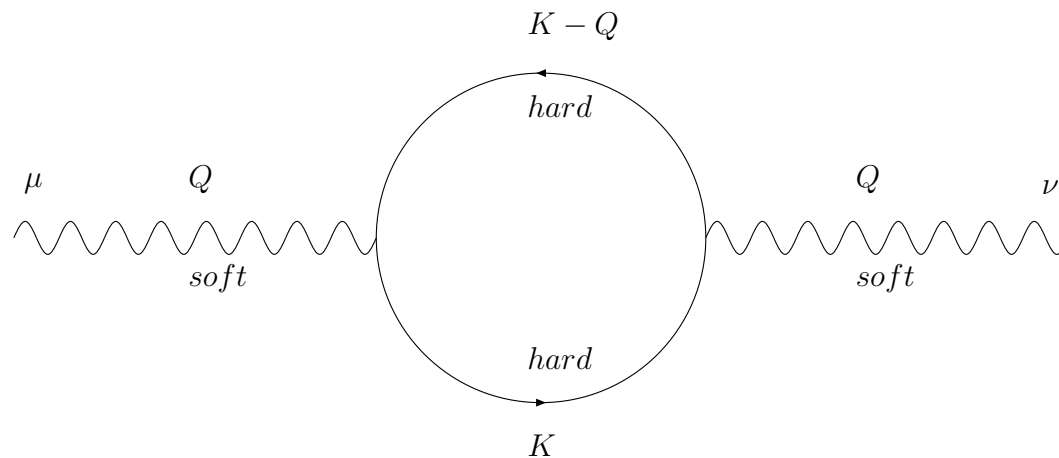
- For hard momentum exchange: $\lambda_{mfp}^{hard} \sim 1/g^4 T$,
- For soft momentum exchange: $\lambda_{mfp}^{soft} \sim 1/g^2 T$.

For weak coupling one has $\lambda_{mfp}^{soft} \ll \lambda_{mfp}^{hard}$, i.e.

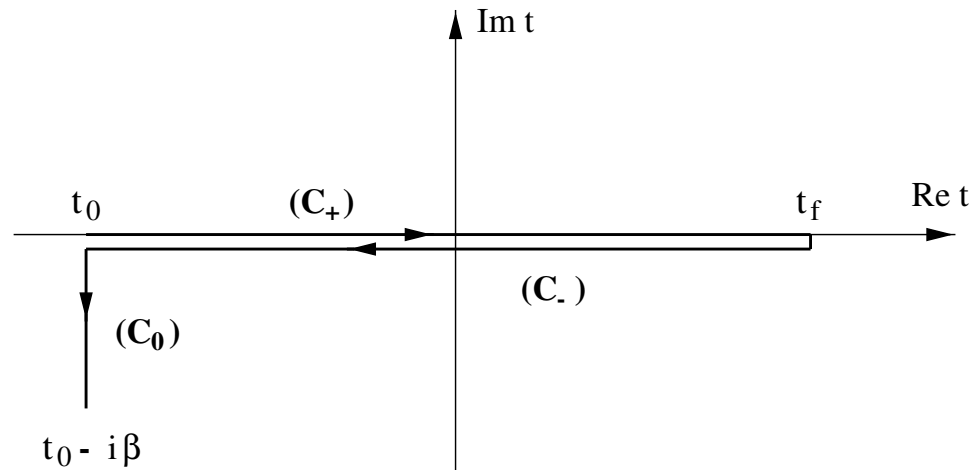
most of the scattering processes involve small momentum transfer.

The HTL effective action II

- Assume the *interaction* being mostly *carried by soft photons* ($Q \sim gT \ll T$)
- The propagation of soft photons is *dressed by the interactions with the light fermions of the thermal bath* which are *hard* ($K \sim T$)



The HTL effective action III



⇒ The photon propagator in the *complex-time plane*:

$$iD_{\mu\nu}(x - y) \equiv \theta_C(x^0 - y^0) \langle A_\mu(x) A_\nu(y) \rangle + \theta_C(y^0 - x^0) \langle A_\nu(y) A_\mu(x) \rangle$$

⇒ The HTL effective action:

$$S_C^{HTL}[A] = \frac{1}{2} \int_C d^4x \int_C d^4y A^\mu(x) (D^{-1})_{\mu\nu}^{HTL}(x - y) A^\nu(y).$$

It is gaussian!

Performing the functional integral

⇒ Being the action gaussian...

$$G^>(t, \mathbf{r}_1; t, \mathbf{r}_2 | 0, \mathbf{r}'_1; 0, \mathbf{r}'_2) = \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \bar{G}(t, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2),$$

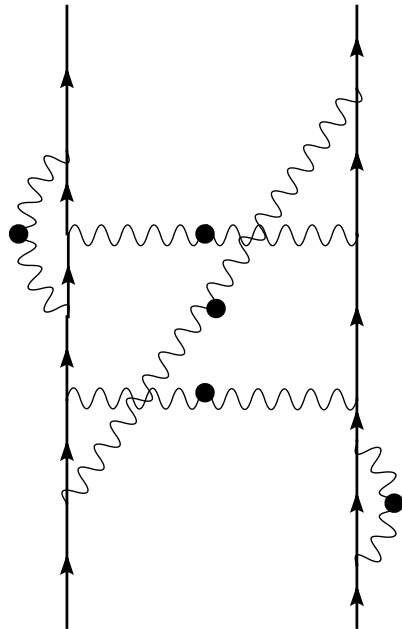
where

$$\bar{G}(t, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int_C d^4x \int_C d^4y J^\mu(x) D_{\mu\nu}^{HTL}(x-y) J^\nu(y) \right]$$

with $J^\mu(x)$ the $Q\bar{Q}$ current.

Unified description of real and imaginary-time propagation!

In terms of Feynman diagrams...



Real-time $Q\bar{Q}$ propagator

$\Rightarrow Q\bar{Q}$ current non-vanishing along C_+ :

$$\bar{G}(t, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int_{C_+} d^4x \int_{C_+} d^4y J^\mu(x) D_{\mu\nu}(x - y) J^\nu(y) \right]$$

with

$$J^\mu(z) = \delta^{\mu 0} \theta(z^0) \theta(t - z^0) [-g\delta(\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{r}_1) + g\delta(\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{r}_2)]$$

\Rightarrow One gets:

$$\bar{G}(t, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = \exp \left[-2ig^2 \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1 - \cos(\omega t)}{\omega^2} \left(1 - e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)} \right) D_{00}(\omega, \mathbf{q}) \right]$$

⇒ Large time behavior

- $Q\bar{Q}$ propagator

$$\bar{G}(t, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \underset{t \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \exp[-iV_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)t]$$

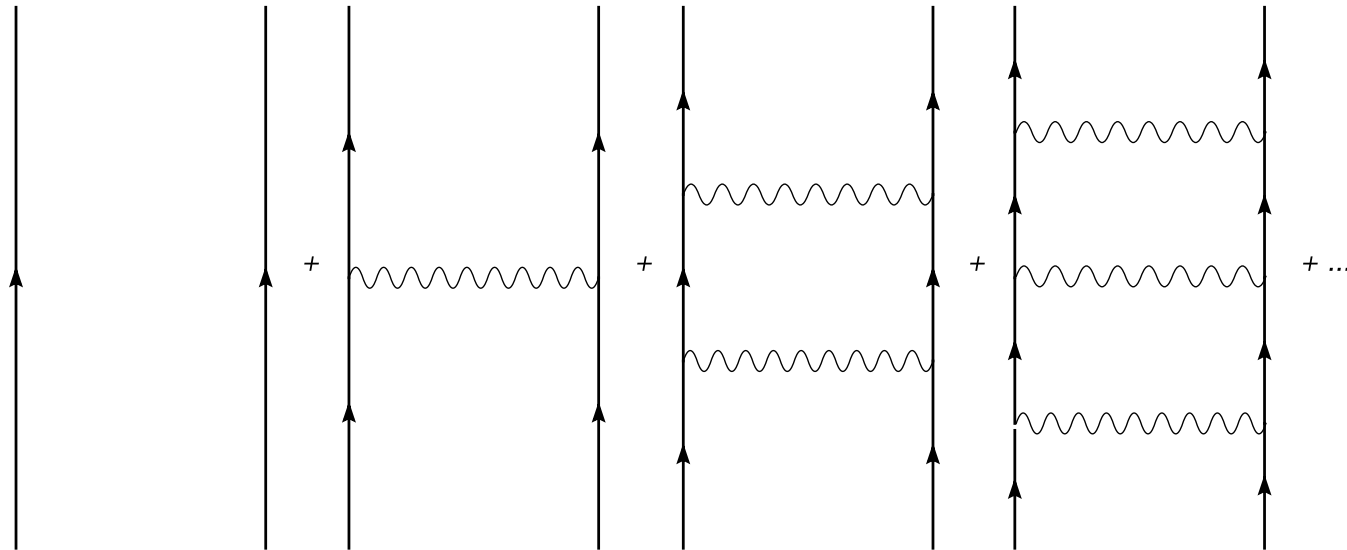
- Temporal evolution equation (\sim Schrödinger!)

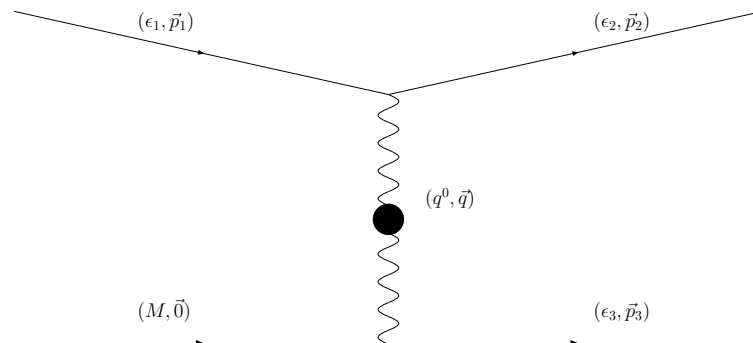
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} [i\partial_t - V_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)]\bar{G}(t, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = 0$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) &\equiv g^2 \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \left(1 - e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)}\right) D_{00}(\omega=0, \mathbf{q}) \\ &= g^2 \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \left(1 - e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)}\right) \left[\underbrace{\frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^2 + m_D^2}}_{\text{screening}} - i \underbrace{\frac{\pi m_D^2 T}{|\mathbf{q}|(\mathbf{q}^2 + m_D^2)^2}}_{\text{collisions}} \right] \\ &= -\frac{g^2}{4\pi} \left[m_D + \frac{e^{-m_D r}}{r} \right] - i \frac{g^2 T}{4\pi} \phi(m_D r) \end{aligned}$$

⇒ **In terms of Feynman diagrams** the large time behavior can be described as *a ladder of instantaneous effective interactions*:





⇒ **Interpretation of the damping:** interaction rate of a heavy fermion in the thermal bath

$$\Gamma(M) = 2 \frac{1}{2M} \int_{p_1} \int_{p_2} \int_{p_3} (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(P + P_1 - P_2 - P_3) \times \\ \times [n_1(1 - n_2)(1 - n_3) + (1 - n_1)n_2n_3] \overline{|\mathcal{M}|^2}$$

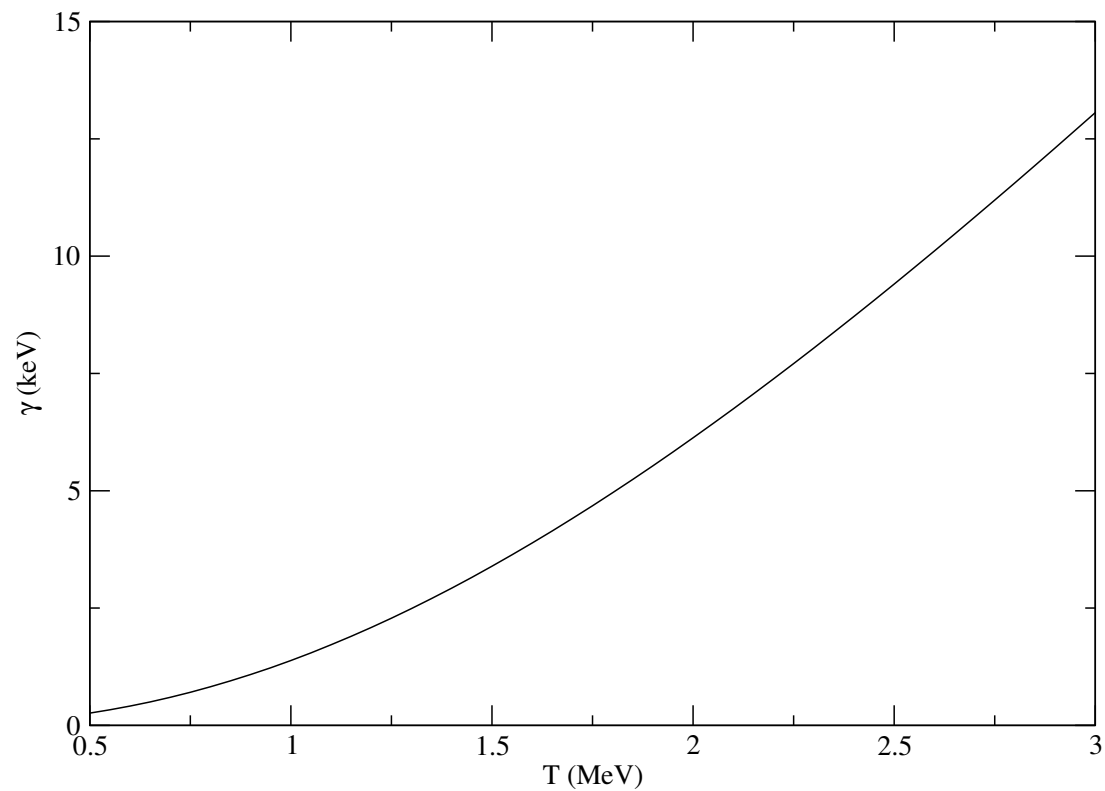
In the $M \rightarrow \infty$ limit:

$$\Gamma(\infty) = g^2 T \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\pi m_D^2}{(\mathbf{q}^2 + m_D^2)^2 q}$$

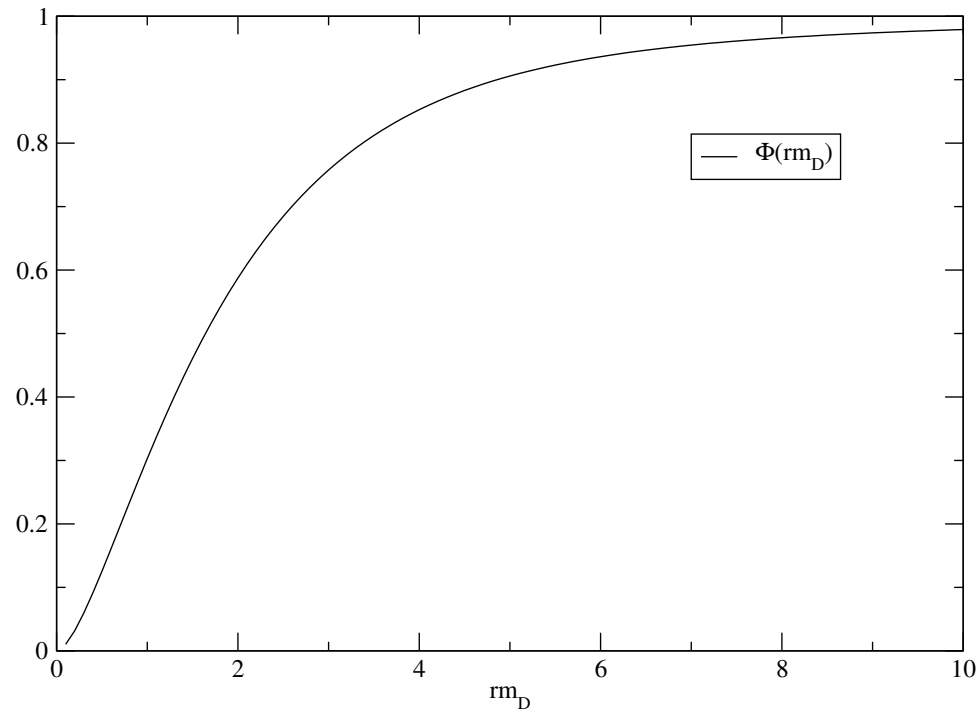
NB The resulting width in $G^>(\omega)$ should be interpreted as a *collisional broadening* of the state.

⇒ **An example:** a $\mu^+\mu^-$ pair in a hot QED plasma.

$$r = \langle r \rangle_{1S} = \frac{3}{2} a_{\text{Bohr}} \equiv \frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{\mu \alpha_{\text{QED}}} \approx 3.89 \text{ MeV}^{-1},$$



⇒ **The imaginary-part of V_{eff}** as a function of the $Q\bar{Q}$ separation:



For very small separation the $Q\bar{Q}$ pair is seen as a *neutral* object and it does not interact with the particles of the medium.

Real-time propagation: what we learnt

In the case of $M = \infty$ and soft-photon exchange:

- Exact expression for $G^>(t)$;
- Closed temporal evolution equation for $G^>(t)$;
- From the large-time behavior \rightarrow **effective potential**
 - Real part: screening,
 - Imaginary part: collisional damping;
- Connection of the imaginary part with the interaction rate.

Imaginary-time $Q\bar{Q}$ propagator

\Rightarrow Analyticity of $G^>(t) \rightarrow$ simply set $t = -i\tau$ with $\tau \in [0, \beta]$

$$\bar{G}(-i\tau, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = \exp \left[g^2 \int_0^\tau d\tau' \int_0^\tau d\tau'' \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \left(1 - e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)} \right) \Delta_{00}(\tau' - \tau'', \mathbf{q}) \right]$$

\Rightarrow Propagation till $\tau = \beta$:

$$\bar{G}(-i\beta, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = \exp \left\{ -\beta g^2 \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \left(1 - e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)} \right) \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^2 + m_D^2} \right\}$$

Since:

$$\bar{G}(-i\beta, \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = \exp \left(-\beta \Delta F_{Q\bar{Q}}(r, T) \right)$$

One gets the $Q\bar{Q}$ free-energy:

$$\Delta F_{Q\bar{Q}}(r, T) = -\frac{g^2 m_D}{4\pi} - \frac{g^2}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-m_D r}}{r},$$

It coincides with the real part of the effective potential!

Imaginary-time propagation: what we learnt

- $G^>(t = -i\tau)$ follows simply from the analyticity;
- The free-energy coincides with the real part of the effective potential.

*This relies essentially on the analyticity properties of $G^>(t)$.
Hence we think the argument being very general, not specific of the model we investigated;*

- No information on the imaginary-part can be obtained from $G^>(t = -i\beta)$ (i.e. what is usually evaluated on the lattice).

Have we answered to the
initial questions?

Let us summarize...

- Under some assumptions ($Q\bar{Q}$ external probes, effective interaction accounting for medium effects, $M = \infty$) $G^>(t)$ obeys a closed equation. Is it possible to relax the above constraints?
- Large-time behavior governed by the static limit of the effective interaction
- Analyticity of $G^>(t)$ allows a *unified treatment of real and imaginary-time propagation*;
- The **real part of the effective potential** has to be identified with the **free-energy**;
- **Imaginary part** of the effective potential arises naturally.

The finite mass case:
a possible strategy

The general idea

Treat the heavy fermion propagating in a thermal bath as a point-like particle in Quantum-Mechanics. Hence:

- Sum over all the possible trajectories in a given background field:

$$\langle \mathbf{x}_f \tau_f | \mathbf{x}_i \tau_i \rangle = \int_{\mathbf{x}(\tau_i)=\mathbf{x}_i}^{\mathbf{x}(\tau_f)=\mathbf{x}_f} [\mathcal{D}\mathbf{x}(\tau')] \exp \left[- \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_f} d\tau' \left(\frac{1}{2} M \dot{\mathbf{x}}^2 + V(\mathbf{x}) \right) \right],$$

where $V(\mathbf{x}) \equiv g\Phi(\mathbf{x})$ (scalar interaction) and $\dot{\mathbf{x}} \equiv d\mathbf{x}/d\tau'$.

- Average over all the possible field configurations (the action accounting for medium effects)

$$G^>(-i\tau, \mathbf{r}_1 | 0, \mathbf{r}'_1) = Z^{-1} \int_{\mathbf{z}_1(0)=\mathbf{r}'_1}^{\mathbf{z}_1(\tau)=\mathbf{r}_1} [\mathcal{D}\mathbf{z}_1] \int [\mathcal{D}\Phi] \exp \left[- \int_0^\tau d\tau' \frac{1}{2} M \dot{\mathbf{z}}_1^2 \right] \times \\ \times \exp \left[-g \int_0^\tau d\tau' \Phi(t', \mathbf{z}_1(t')) \right] e^{-S_E^{\text{eff}}[\Phi]}$$

For a gaussian effective action...

⇒ Single particle propagator:

$$G^>(-i\tau, \mathbf{r}_1 | 0, \mathbf{r}'_1) = \int_{\mathbf{z}(0)=\mathbf{r}'_1}^{\mathbf{z}(\tau)=\mathbf{r}_1} [\mathcal{D}\mathbf{z}] \exp \left[- \int_0^\tau d\tau' \frac{1}{2} M \dot{\mathbf{z}}^2 \right] \times \\ \times \exp \left[\frac{g^2}{2} \int_0^\tau d\tau' \int_0^\tau d\tau'' \Delta(\tau' - \tau'', \mathbf{z}(\tau') - \mathbf{z}(\tau'')) \right],$$

with $\Delta(\tau, \mathbf{z})$ the Matsubara propagator of the exchanged meson.

NB *Imaginary-time propagation in view of the numerical evaluation of the path-integral!*

⇒ Two-particle propagator:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G^>(-i\tau, \mathbf{r}_1; -i\tau, \mathbf{r}_2 | 0, \mathbf{r}'_1, 0, \mathbf{r}'_2) &= \int_{\mathbf{r}'_1}^{\mathbf{r}_1} [\mathcal{D}\mathbf{z}_1] \int_{\mathbf{r}'_2}^{\mathbf{r}_2} [\mathcal{D}\mathbf{z}_2] \times \\
 &\times \exp \left[- \int_0^\tau d\tau' \left(\frac{1}{2} M \dot{\mathbf{z}}_1^2 - \frac{g^2}{2} \int_0^\tau d\tau'' \Delta(\tau' - \tau'', \mathbf{z}_1(\tau') - \mathbf{z}_1(\tau'')) \right) \right] \times \\
 &\times \exp \left[- \int_0^\tau d\tau' \left(\frac{1}{2} M \dot{\mathbf{z}}_2^2 - \frac{g^2}{2} \int_0^\tau d\tau'' \Delta(\tau' - \tau'', \mathbf{z}_2(\tau') - \mathbf{z}_2(\tau'')) \right) \right] \times \\
 &\times \exp \left[g^2 \int_0^\tau d\tau' \int_0^\tau d\tau'' \Delta(\tau' - \tau'', \mathbf{z}_1(\tau') - \mathbf{z}_2(\tau'')) \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

Possible investigations

- Evaluating $G^>(-i\tau)$ for a huge set of points in view a MEM reconstruction of the spectral function

$$G^>(-i\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} e^{-\omega\tau} G^>(\omega) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} e^{-\omega\tau} \rho(\omega)$$

with $\rho(\omega)$ having support starting from $\omega \sim 2M$.

- Comparison with other strategies
 - Finite temperature $Q\bar{Q}$ “wave-functions” (Umeda)

$$\phi(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \equiv G(\tau, \mathbf{x})/G(\tau, \mathbf{0})$$

$$G(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \equiv \sum_{\mathbf{z}} \langle \chi(\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{x}, -i\tau) \psi(\mathbf{z}, -i\tau) J^\dagger(\tau = 0) \rangle$$

- Screened potential-model calculations.